

Meeting Minutes – April 23, 2015
West Boylston Open Space Implementation Committee (OSIC)
Town Hall, 140 Worcester St., West Boylston, MA

Members: Brenda Bowman, Ray DeSanti, Gary Flynn, John Hadley, Mike Peckar, Barbara Wyatt, Vin Vignaly

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Vignaly at 7:03 pm. On a motion by John and a second from Gary, the minutes of the 3/23/15 meeting were unanimously approved as written.

Pesticide Use on Town Fields:

The OSIC was pleased to receive the Pesticide Notification Protocol and a Turf Treatment notification of chemicals to be applied today. Brenda asked what chemicals were being used. Gary will get a list of the chemicals and their MDS info from the DPW.

Goodale Park Master Plan Comments:

The Parks Facilities Committee meeting scheduled for tonight was cancelled. This committee had planned to attend to get an update, but will wait to see when the next meeting is scheduled.

Open Space and Recreation Plan Update:

The Selectboard decided not to place this article on the Town Meeting Warrant for May. An email was received yesterday to notify the OSIC. Disappointment was expressed by the OSIC. The information was submitted back in January, with an expanded package submitted in early March. No questions or indication that there were concerns from the Selectboard were received. We are an advisory board and the Selectmen make the decisions. The OSIC believes it is important to the Town and hopes that the Selectmen have a plan to update the Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Committee confirmed the need to protect and expand open space in town and will assist the Selectboard with open space issues if we are part of their plan. Vin will draft a response email to this affect. No need for planned coordination with others.

263 Maple Street Acquisition:

Mike reported that GWLT reviewed a property division plan from Thompson-Liston Associates with the building inspector with the understanding that the lot divisions could be allowed under the existing non-conforming section of the State Law. Vin spoke with the Building Inspector to confirm the interpretation for the lot and the Building Inspector determined that it doesn't meet the standard in the State Law. Mike asked if the OSIC really wants to proceed with the acquisition, and the committee agreed it is important. Vin said he was disappointed that Thomson-Liston advised them to proceed to consider the pre-existing lot as non-conforming when in reality it was not. Vin said the Planning Board knows these laws and was trying to save time/fees to keep the project moving. Mike said the alternative is more time-consuming and costly, and GWLT is now looking to OSIC for direction. Vin said Colin had said he previously contacted the abutter to the south who has adequate frontage, but was not interested in selling the land. Vin asked Mike to confirm this because that would likely be the easiest approach. The development sketches of the property would encourage the abutter to sell to protect his interests. Vin offered to contact the abutter and explain the situation if GWLT wants. OSIC is committed to this. Brenda will find out how much is in the CPA Open Space account.

Next meeting was suggested as Monday, June 15, 2015 at 6 pm. Upon a motion by Barbara, and seconded by Ray, the committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Vincent Vignaly, Clerk